

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A method for producing a copolyester comprising at least 3-hydroxybutyric acid and hydroxyhexanoic acid as monomeric units by a microorganism

which comprises culturing the microorganism with an oil or fat containing lauric acid in constituent fatty acids as a carbon source under condition phosphorus, a nutrient source, being restricted.

2. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the oil or fat used as a carbon source contains at least 10% by weight of lauric acid in the constituent fatty acids.

3. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the oil and fat used as a carbon source contains at least one oil or fat selected from the group consisting of palm kernel oil, coconut oil and a fractional oil or fat obtainable by fractioning said oil or fat.

4. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~any of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1, wherein the productivity of the copolyester produced by a microorganism is at least 40 g/L and a content of 3-hydroxyhexanoic acid unit in the copolyester is at least 4 mol%.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~any of Claims 1 to 4~~ Claim 1, wherein the microorganism is a transformed microorganism incorporated with a polyester polymerase gene isolated from *Aeromonas caviae* ~~*Aeromonas caviae*~~.

6. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~any of Claims 1 to 5~~ Claim 1,

wherein the microorganism is *Ralstonia eutropha* ~~Ralstonia eutropha~~.